



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
-----------------	-------------	----------------------	---------------------	------------------

10/651,814

08/28/2003

Yuzuru Suzuki

31647-2

9557

7590

09/03/2004

Mitchell P. Brook, Esq.
Luce Forward Hamilton & Scripps LLP
Suite 200
11988 El Camino Real
San Diego, CA 92130

EXAMINER

MULLINS, BURTON S

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2834

DATE MAILED: 09/03/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/651,814

Applicant(s)

SUZUKI ET AL.

Examiner

Burton S. Mullins

Art Unit

2834

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-10 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-10 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date ____.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: ____.

DETAILED ACTION

Priority

1. Receipt is acknowledged of papers submitted under 35 U.S.C. 119(a)-(d), which papers have been placed of record in the file.

Information Disclosure Statement

2. The information disclosure statements submitted on 28 August 2003, 12 December 2003 and 26 July 2004 have been considered by the examiner.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

3. Claims 8-10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. In claim 8, recitation "from an inner side flange of the two" is indefinite. In claim 9, correct "pred terminated" and "qual".

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

4. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

5. Claims 1-4 and 6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Kato et al. (JP 6-315256). Kato teaches a stepping motor assembly comprising a bobbin body

composed of a cylinder 2 for having a winding of a magnet wire 3 therearound and two flanges (not numbered; Fig.3) formed on both ends of the cylinder and adapted to hold the winding 3 in place and cover sides of the winding (Fig.3); and a bobbin cover 4 adapted to be put over the winding and cover a circumference of the winding 3 (Fig.3).

Regarding claim 2, as seen in Fig.1, the cover's outer diameter is equal to the outer diameter of the flange.

Regarding claim 3, the axial dimension of the bobbin cover 4 is equal to or slightly less than the distance between inner sides of the flanges (Fig.1).

Regarding claim 4, note the slit gap (not numbered) in the bobbin cover 4 (Fig.3).

Regarding claim 6, the bobbin body's recessed section 2b and the bobbin cover's projecting section 4b comprise respective positioning mechanisms engaging with each other (Fig.3).

6. Claims 1, 5 and 7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Sugiura et al. (US 5,111,175). Sugiura teaches a resin molding for an electromagnetic valve assembly comprising a bobbin body composed of a cylinder (Fig.1) for having a winding of a magnet wire 2 therearound and two flanges (not numbered; Fig.1) formed on both ends of the cylinder and adapted to hold the winding 2 in place and cover sides of the winding (Fig.1); and a bobbin cover comprising molding resin 7 (Figs.15-16) adapted to be put over the winding and cover a circumference of the winding 3 (Figs.15-16).

Regarding claim 7, the bobbin includes a coil termination block (not numbered, near tape 10 in Fig.1) having terminal pins 4/5 for external connection to which terminations of the

Art Unit: 2834

magnet wire are connected, and the bobbin cover of molding resin 7 is configured so as to cover both the winding and the terminations (Fig.15).

Allowable Subject Matter

7. Claims 8-10 would be allowable if rewritten to overcome the rejection(s) under 35 U.S.C. 112, 2nd paragraph, set forth in this Office action and to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Regarding claim 8, the prior art of record does not teach or suggest the claimed bobbin structure comprises a bobbin coil termination block formed so as to radially protrude outward from an inner side flange of the two flanges and has the terminal pins provided at its distal end surface, with the bobbin cover including a termination protector formed so as to radially protrude outward from the bobbin cover and adapted to cover the coil termination block.

Conclusion

8. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

9. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Burton S. Mullins whose telephone number is 571-272-2029. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday, 9 am to 5 pm. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Art Unit: 2834

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Burton S. Mullins
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2834

bsm
01 September 2004